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TC 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

51048-2 DIV

In re application of:
Goela et al.

Serial No.: 09/870,242

Filed: May 30, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
PRODUCING FREE-STANDING SILICON
CARBIDE ARTICLES

: Group Art Unit: 1772

: Examiner: Brian P. Egan

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Assistant Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks
US Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 3, 2002, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified patent application.

REMARKS

Claims 20 to 33 are pending in the present application.

Claims 20 to 33 are subject to a restriction requirement.

Claims 27 to 33 are rejected.

Group I claims, 20 to 26, are drawn to an apparatus for forming solid deposits from gaseous precursors and classified in class 118, subclass 715.

Group II claims, 27 to 33, are drawn to a hollow silicon carbide shell, classified in class 428, subclass 34.4.

Applicants elect Group II claims, 27 to 33, which are drawn to a hollow silicon carbide shell, and classified in class 428, subclass 34.4 with traverse.

MPEP § 803 sets forth two criteria for a proper requirement for restriction between patentably distinct inventions. These criteria are (1) the inventions must be independent or